

**Abstract****PERFORMING OPERATING SYSTEM RECOVERY FROM EXTERNAL  
BACK-UP MEDIA IN A HEADLESS COMPUTER ENTITY**

A computer entity, particularly but not exclusively a headless computer  
5 entity, has operating systems stored on a non-volatile data storage device e.g. a  
hard disk drive, and has a back-up data storage device. Operating system back-  
up's are taken from an uncorrupted copy of an operating system stored in a  
separate partition on the data storage device to the primary operating system  
which is actually used to run the device, thereby ensuring that if the primary  
10 operating system of the computer entity becomes corrupted either gradually or  
catastrophically, the back-up copy which is stored on a back-up media is not  
effected. Under failure conditions of the computer entity, a pristine copy of the  
operating system can be reloaded from the back-up tape data storage media and  
the computer entity rebooted from the pristine operating system back-up copy.

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